47/343

Abstract of the Disclosure

A parallel decompression system and method which decompresses input compressed data in one or more decompression cycles, with a plurality of tokens typically being decompressed in each cycle in parallel. A parallel decompression engine may include an input for receiving compressed data, a history window, and a plurality of decoders for examining and decoding a plurality of tokens from the compressed data in parallel in a series of decompression cycles. A token may represent one or more compressed symbols or one uncompressed symbol. The parallel decompression engine may also include preliminary select generation logic for generating a plurality of preliminary selects in parallel. A preliminary select may point to an uncompressed symbol in the history window, an uncompressed symbol from a token in the current decompression cycle, or a symbol being decompressed in the current decompression cycle. The parallel decompression engine may also include final select generation logic for resolving preliminary selects and generating a plurality of final selects in parallel. Each of the plurality of final selects points either to an uncompressed symbol in the history window or to an uncompressed symbol from a token in the current decompression cycle. The parallel decompression engine may also include uncompressed data output logic for generating the uncompressed data from the uncompressed symbols pointed to by the plurality of final selects, and for storing the symbols decompressed in this cycle in the history window. The decompression engine may also include an output for outputting the uncompressed data produced in the decompression cycles. The decompression engine may be divided into a series of stages. The decoders may be included in a first stage. The preliminary select generation logic may be included in a second stage. The final select generation logic may be included in a third stage. The output logic may be included in a fourth stage.